

KURODA et al.  
 Serial No. 09/885,005  
 Amendment Accompanying Request for Continued Examination

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REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject patent application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 6-14, 16-20, 30 and 33-38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) as allegedly being "anticipated" by Utsumi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,400,667). Claims 21, 23 and 25-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as allegedly being "obvious" over Utsumi et al. While not acquiescing in these rejections or in the characterizations of Utsumi et al. set forth in the office action, independent claims 1, 9, 12, 18, 21, 27, 30, 33 and 38 have been amended and conforming amendments have been made to claims that depend therefrom. The discussion below makes reference to the amended claims.

Utsumi et al. describes a reproduction apparatus and method involving main data (e.g., audio data), sub data relating to the main data (e.g., title, track and artist data), main management data indicative of recorded positions of the main data, and sub management data indicative of the recorded positions of the sub data and reproduction starting timings of sub data.

The office action points out that Utsumi et al. discloses a process for reading out text files from a disc and storing them into a buffer memory, then reading out the time stamp to grasp information in a reproduction outputting order. See 7/19/2006 Office Action, page 3. Applicants respectfully submit that this part of the office action actually describes differences between Utsumi et al. (US6,400,667) and the claims. That is, in Utsumi et al., the time stamp is used for the reproduction of the text files, but not used for recording of the text files. Although the text files are stored in the buffer memory, it is merely a temporary recording. Indeed, the entirety of the text files is not stored in the buffer memory at the same time and it is therefore unnecessary to manage a storing position in the buffer memory.

On the other hand, in claim 1, for example, partial information is output together with recording position information showing a recording position of the partial information on a recording medium on which the partial information is to be recorded. The recording position information has a predetermined relationship with address information set in advance in the recording medium. Therefore, even if the received partial information is not the first partial information, the received partial information can be recorded at an appropriate position on the recording medium.

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Utsumi et al. does not disclose or suggest, among other things, the recording of the text files which are read out from a recording medium in another recording medium using recording position information. Consequently, Utsumi et al. does not disclose or suggest the features of the pending claims relating to, among other things, recording position information which has a predetermined relationship with address information set in advance in the recording medium. Consequently, Utsumi et al. does not anticipate or make obvious the independent claims or the claims that depend therefrom.

New claims 39-45 are added. Claims 39-41 depend from claim 36 and claims 42-48 depend from claims 1, 9, 12, 18, 21, 27 and 30, respectively. These new claims are believed to be allowable at least because of their respective dependencies.

The pending claims are believed to be allowable and favorable office action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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